

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-11, 15-25, and 29-39 have been elected.

The applicant has studied the Office Action dated February 12, 2004 and has made the changes believed appropriate to place the application in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested.

The Examiner's requested changes to the specification relating to trademarks have been made as indicated herein above. More specifically, the trademarks have been capitalized and are accompanied in the text by the generic terminology, "word processing programs."

Claims 1-11, 15-25, and 29-39 have been rejected as being unpatentable (35 U.S.C. 103(a)) by Courter et al. (hereinafter the Courter reference). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 requires, *inter alia*, "... scanning and parsing words in the text; for each set of one or more scanned and parsed words, determining whether one or more words form a contact phrase providing information to identify or address a person or entity ..." The Examiner has cited no teaching or suggestion in the Courter reference of a method comprising "scanning and parsing words in the text; for each set of one or more scanned and parsed words, determining whether one or more words form a contact phrase providing information to identify or address a person or entity" as required by claim 1.

It is noted that the Examiner has cited page 407 of the Courter reference as describing entering an e-mail address in a "text box." It is believed that the referenced "text box" is an input field labeled "E-mail" of an Outlook Contact form (see FIG. 18.1, page 403). As such, this input field is reserved for e-mail addresses. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's citations to the Courter reference do not describe a method which includes "... scanning and parsing words in the text; for each set of one or more scanned and parsed words, determining whether one or more words form a contact phrase providing information to identify or address a person or entity ..." as required by claim 1. Instead, all text entered by the user into the "E-mail" input field of the Outlook Contact form cited by the Examiner appears to be treated

by the Outlook program as an e-mail address without any prior determination as such. It is believed that the e-mail address entered into the "E-mail" input field is examined to determine if the format of the entered e-mail address matches a predetermined format. However, the Examiner has cited no teaching or suggestion that a determination is made as to whether the entered text is an e-mail address or contact phrase. Independent claims 15 and 29 may be distinguished in an analogous fashion.

Claims 2-11 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1; claims 16-25 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 15; and claims 30-39 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 29. Accordingly, the rejection of these claims is improper for the reasons given above. Moreover, these dependent claims include additional limitations, which in combination with the base and intervening claims from which they depend provide still further grounds of patentability over the cited art.

The Examiner has made various comments concerning the anticipation or obviousness of certain features of the present inventions. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Applicant has addressed those comments directly herein above or the Examiner's comments are deemed moot in view of the above response.

Conclusion

For all the above reasons, Applicant submits that the pending claims 1-19 are patentable over the art of record. Applicants have not added any claims. Nonetheless, should any additional fees be required, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-5085.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact him at (310) 553-7977 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

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